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# INFORMATION REPORT

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1. General Tran Dai Nghia's real name is Pham Quang Le. He is an engineer, and during the German occupation of France he took a training course at the Krupp industrial works. After the Fontainebleau Conference in 1946, Nghia returned to Vietnam with Ho Chi Minh.
2. General Nghia adapted himself easily to the Communist regime, and has rendered the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) many services. He has organized factories to produce war materiel, trained technical cadremen, commanded the 351 Division, invented the type of gunpowder used for the SKZ (recoilless) weapons, and recently invented a new explosive, the "XX-2", which is much more powerful than previous types.
3. Since June 1951, General Nghia has also served as Secretary of State in the DRV Ministry of Commerce and Industry, but his work in this Ministry is solely concerned with war industry. The chief of the Ministry is Phan Anh.<sup>1</sup>

[ ] Comment. [ ] General Nghia is also Chief of the Arms and Artillery Bureau of the DRV General Staff. The fact that Nghia is simultaneously filling so many important, working-level posts in the DRV Army and Government reflects the crucial need for highly-trained technical leaders in the DRV zone.

1. [ ] Comment. According to information available to this office, Phan Anh is a non-Communist and is not permitted to exercise real control over the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of which he is still nominally the chief. The Ministry is actually run by Communists who are subordinate to Anh in name only.

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